

[22nd October 1927]

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN:—"It is stated in answer to clause (g) that the 'present condition of the persons sent out from this Province is reported to be very good'. I want to know, Sir, what the hon. Member means by that."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, we asked the Jail authorities to submit a report on the health conditions of the people there, and that was the report that we received from them."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member the percentage of mortality in the Indian jails here?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In our jails, the mortality is about 12·51 per mille."

Diet to vegetarian and non-vegetarian prisoners.

* 827 Q.—**Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:** Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the nature of the food that is given to non-vegetarian prisoners;
- (b) whether it includes fish and mutton; and
- (c) whether the food of Indian prisoners includes curd or buttermilk?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to rule 347, Jail Manual.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Will the hon. the Home Member kindly tell us whether curd or milk is given in jails?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think, Sir, that they are generally given."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Jail authorities accept the theory that preference should be given to the kind of diet that the convicts are used to?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Whatever may be the theory that they accept, we have to go upon the provisions of the Jail Manual and the rules framed under it."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"Sir, may I know whether the hon. Member would attempt to change the rules so as to apply that theory in this case, just as it is applied in the case of European convicts?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think it will be possible to do so; but still I shall consider the suggestion."

Labour

Labourers recruited from South Kanara for several plantations.

* 828 Q.—**Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:** With reference to my question No. 167, answered on 26th August 1927, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of labourers recruited in South Kanara and sent to the plantations in Malabar, Mysore and Coorg in the years 1924, 1925 and 1926 by the United Planters' Association of Southern India showing the various communities to which they belong; and